

# THE MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, BY A SOCIETY OF FARMERS, AT QUINCY HALL, SOUTH MARKET STREET—WM. BUCKMINSTER, OF FRAMINGHAM, EDITOR.

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## A CONSOLIDATION OF THE MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN, AND THE YANKEE FARMER.

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## AGRICULTURE.

### COVERING MEADOWS.

Mr. Wetherburn of Marlborough, who has made great improvement in his low boggy land, tells us he has been adopting a cheaper method of burying up the vegetable growth on his meadow. He has dug a broad and deep ditch through it, and he has obtained materials handsomely, covering the surface at much less expense than when he eisted soil from a distance.

As he completed his ditch very late in autumn, he proposes to sow his grass seed in the spring. We think he will find it better to let him seed in ridges, as it now lies, till August; then spread it and bury all the old growth, and after top-dressing seed it down. For he cannot work it well in the spring; and if he could he would have nothing but a crop of weeds next summer unless he sows grain; and grain never pays well on such land. His grass is the main object, and this should be sown after haying when he can work his mud to advantage.

There is much land that may be sowed more easily in this mode than by carting from a distance. The ditches may be dug at any time when the ground is dry enough, and you need not be in great haste to level down and sow, let the mud lie and sweeten till the right season for sowing.

You may cut a ditch on the very border of your meadow and often find better materials for the surface than elsewhere. If any object to cutting a wide and deep ditch they should consider that ditches are fast filling up. The cheeks should always be pared off and the bottom of the ditch should be quite narrow; then you will have grass on the sides.

### WARTS ON THE TEATS OF A COW.

A subscriber wishes us to tell what is the best remedy for warts on the teats of cows. Milk-wedds will often carry them off; and we believe there are various vegetable substances which will kill them at once as soon as they come in contact with the warts.

In the Ploughman of January 9, 1842, may be seen a certificate of a man who had tried a prescription of our recommendation. "This was to make a position of the scapulars of a cow and apply to the warts; salt was put into the position, and to three positions cured the warts in three days." Some of our correspondents wanted to see that they had tried this remedy and found it effectual. If our friend finds there is so much virtue in the carrot, he will repay our trouble by communicating the fact. And if in this case it falls he will do a public service by making known the failure.

FAY FISH. Mr. Curtis Childs of Framingham, has just killed three pigs that were 1-2 months old; each one weighed upwards of three hundred lbs. This is quite well for pigs of that age.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

### FRUIT TREES—AND THEIR ENEMIES.

MR. EDITOR.—There is evidently a growing interest taken by our farmers in fruit trees—not in apple trees merely, but in the pear and stone fruit. The latter class of fruit has been thought more difficult of raising than the apple; but this difficulty doubtless arises mainly from ignorance of the best methods of propagation. The process by which stone fruit is propagated, budding, has been almost exclusively confined to nursery-men, and by many persons even at this time, so much information is spread abroad by the public, that it is considered a very difficult, if not a mysterious process, which to acquire a regular horticultural apprenticeship is essential. The same remarks will apply to the raising of stone fruit. The first time I adopted this method, the stones all vegetated, and the trees came up well—of course, I thought following Nature was a capital thing, and so the next season I followed her again, but not a single peach stone, out of more than 500, germinated that spring—the next spring, however, the most of them came up, but it was a day, or rather a year after the first—it did not find it out till midsummer, when the trees got above the weeds which had been suffered to grow on the ground where the peach stones were originally planted.

So much for Nature—now for an improvement on her plan. Deposit the stones, after being taken from the peach, in sand or dirt, put them in the ground, slightly covered, in the fall. As for the cotton-bag in which to keep them under ground, I have never tried it, or any other covering but the ground itself. Take up the stones early in the spring, crack them and plant immediately the seeds or pits. In a week or ten days they will all be up, without fail, just as certain as so many peas, or kernels of corn. Has it ever occurred to you that the borer may be introduced into orchards and nurseries, by manuring them with decayed rotten wood, substances, or chips and splinters from wood piles? A townman of mine set out an orchard of thirty apple trees; in a few years they were nearly destroyed by the borer—how introduced he was unable to conjecture. On inquiry, I learned from him, that they had been plentifully supplied with chip manure. The question is, and perhaps you can answer it—were the borer introduced here, or rather are they ever introduced into orchards, by the application of such manure?

For years past many orchards in this vicinity have been ravaged by the canker worm, in some instances rendered almost worthless by it. Tarring has been the general preventative, but is not always successful. Last winter, however, did more for us in destroying this pest of orchards, than any thing else. It was observed in the spring that the canker worms did not make their appearance at the usual time, and in fact did not appear at all, or only in small numbers. The winter had the credit of killing them, but in what way, it may not be easy to answer. One fact I will state as throwing some light on the question. An orchard in my neighborhood, which had been over the year previous with canker worms, was broken up late last spring. Afterwards the trees were carefully dug round with the pick axe, and at the trunk of each tree, a large quantity of fine grubs was found. From these it is not so much that the grubs were arrested by the frost in the spring—and you will recollect that the frost continued in the ground unusually late last spring, and that while they were thus held in duration, the period for ascending the trees passed by, and that the few grubs that did ascend, ascended in the fall.

What is the most remarkable in this case is, that the grubs were alive, lodged securely under ground, without any apparent attempt to ascend their quarters. You will understand that it was late in the spring when they were thus found, and that if they had the disposition to ascend the trees, they might easily have done so, days before—but neither the orchard, nor others in our region, were troubled with the canker worms to a slight extent, by the canker worms the last spring.

ALLEN W. DODGE.  
Hamilton, Jan. 3d, 1844.

We again confess ourselves under obligation to the Hon. Mr. Dodge, for another interesting communication.

In regard to budding and grafting, most farmers understand pretty well the principle, but they neglect to practice. You can teach any tree, in a very few minutes, how to insert buds and scions; he will learn more in ten minutes by seeing you perform, than in ten days of reading, provided he has never before seen the operation. This is our own apology for not having given very minute directions how to perform these useful arts.

Peach stones will often lie a whole year in the ground before they vegetate. This is probably owing to neglect in keeping the stone sufficiently moist to prevent its hardening. We know of no surer way to manage than to bury the stones in earth soon after they are exposed to the air, and crack them in the spring at the time of planting. The most must be buried immediately after it is taken out of the shell or you lose it.

Cherry stones will not bear a covering of earth. You will have no difficulty in making them vegetate if you sow them on the surface and take care that they do not become dry. You will find thousands of young trees under a bearing mazzard tree, in May, among the grass. By treading the stones into the surface of the earth, and keeping down the grass, as we usually do in picking fruit in June and July, under the trees, a great proportion of the stones are kept so moist, and yet so exposed to the influence of the atmosphere, as to preserve them in a proper state for vegetating when the right season comes round. They will not sprout the first summer though the stone is dropped in June. What is the reason of this? You will find it difficult to make potatoes grow till they have reached one winter.

We believe the rule to be a pretty general one that stone fruit must not be buried deep in earth. Horse chestnuts, common chestnuts, walnuts, and cherries come under the rule. Squirrels and birds are better planters of chestnuts and walnuts than we are. Birds often drop the fruit among the men. Birds and squirrels hide among loose matter that they find, and it is surprising to see how rapidly birds and squirrels will extend a chestnut forest when the adjoining land is covered with leaves.

BORERS INTRODUCED IN CHIP DUNG. We never recommend placing chip dung around any kind of fruit trees for fear of introducing borers. The apple tree borer is found in the ash and the locust tree; also in some others, and it is not proper to make use of chip dung there or any rotten woody substance. If it were not for the worms that are so prevalent in chip dung, it would be a very good material to keep the earth loose about fruit trees. We find the same trouble when we manure our potatoes with chip dung—worms, worms.

CANKER WORMS. These do us unaccountably after they have prevailed for a few years. Sometimes a late frost in the spring, after the worms are hatched, has been known to destroy vast numbers of them. One of the best modes of prevention is to keep the soil in the orchard constantly broken. The hens and the hogs can then have access to them, and they cannot be so well protected from frosts in the spring. One farmer in Sherburne cleared his orchard entirely of canker worms by turning his pigs and his hens in and rewarding them with a little corn. [Editor.]

### PROPAGATION OF PEACH TREES.

MR. EDITOR.—Having been a purchaser of your valuable paper for a few months past, I have noticed that you have various sorts of writers on various subjects, various sorts of questions asked, various sorts of answers given, from various parts of the State. Hence, I conclude that although "green in un," yet perchance I may either receive or impart some new ideas, if not very instructive, as we know that "no one is so big a fool but that something may be learned by him." And I hope I shall be able to do so. I followed this method, the stones all vegetated, and the trees came up well—of course, I thought following Nature was a capital thing, and so the next season I followed her again, but not a single peach stone, out of more than 500, germinated that spring—the next spring, however, the most of them came up, but it was a day, or rather a year after the first—it did not find it out till midsummer, when the trees got above the weeds which had been suffered to grow on the ground where the peach stones were originally planted.

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As to the kinds of peach which I cultivate, I know not what their proper names are; but this I assert, that they are of an excellent quality: I have two kinds only, and call them the red and the yellow raspberries. They generally ripen from the 10th to the 20th of September, of a middling size. One was picked last September which measured nine inches in circumference; this was the red, and larger than the average size. The few old trees which are yet standing, were cultivated in my father's garden, in a neighboring town, and transplanted here ten or fifteen years ago, are now on the decline, but always produced precisely the same kinds of fruit of the original trees in his orchard.

He had two kinds only, with the exception of a late fall peach, which stood in the remote part of the apple orchard, and many trees of each kind continued bearing from year to year. The few old trees which are yet standing, were cultivated in my father's garden, in a neighboring town, and transplanted here ten or fifteen years ago, are now on the decline, but always produced precisely the same kinds of fruit of the original trees in his orchard.

Now, Sir, if it was so natural for the fruits of the peach to mix or degenerate as many suppose, why were there not other kinds discovered among the many trees above spoken of? Why did the two kinds mingle their different properties and produce a peach partaking of that of both? And further, I have now a few young trees in and about my garden, which were propagated from my old ones by way of the stones; a few of these bore for the first time, last season, and those which did bear, brought forth the yellow raspberries precisely like the old stock.

Now, Sir, if you are your readers can give information of the degeneration of the peach, I should like to learn it. I like that of experience and observation, in preference to that of theory or book study. But nothing more this time.

Yours, &c., HOMESPUN.

Bellevue, Jan. 1, 1844.

MR. EDITOR.—Our correspondent has forwarded us in his letter a year's subscription fee, we see no good reason for his withholding his name from his communication.

If he doubts whether the fruit of the peach ever differs from the fruit that was planted, he may find many people who differ from him. His yellow and red peaches may not have amalgamated as others have done, because the trees may not have come in blossom at the same time. Or it may be that some kinds are never affected by the blossoms of others.

If his two kinds had no affinity for each other, then there would be no good reason why he might not propagate fruit of precisely an identical kind from each as well as he could from a single kind. [Editor.]

### THE LIME WAR—OUR QUARTERS.

It is in vain, for you, friend Buckminster, to read into our catalogue of manures or other substances, as to be good. It is not a manure, it is an amendment, it serves to cook the food for plants, which they cannot or will not digest in its raw state. Dr. Jackson says, "mineral substances may be regarded as manures when they contain some vegetable matter, or plants; or as amendments and correctives, when they improve the texture of the soil, stimulate the absorbent powers of plants, or neutralize and render inert, noxious substances." Does any one doubt it? It is true that lime is an amendment, it serves to cook the food for plants, which they cannot or will not digest in its raw state. Dr. Jackson says, "mineral substances may be regarded as manures when they contain some vegetable matter, or plants; or as amendments and correctives, when they improve the texture of the soil, stimulate the absorbent powers of plants, or neutralize and render inert, noxious substances." 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## Second Meeting of Farmers at the State House.

On Wednesday evening last the members of the Legislature and others interested in farming held a very full meeting and discussed the subject which had been agreed on at the previous meeting; viz., manure.

The hall was more full than at any one meeting last winter, and the most earnest attention was paid to all that was said by the speakers, every one seemed interested.

The president of the Senate, Mr. Quincy, presided. The editor of this paper, who had been appointed to open the subject, spent 30 minutes in calling the attention of the meeting to the principal materials which are made use of as manures. In the first list he named that from the horse, horned cattle, sheep, hogs, and the human family.

He considered horse manure, when properly managed, more lasting than any which is called animal manure; it is now so managed that ten times as much is made from a horse that is kept up, as was formerly made; its powerful fermentation renders it most valuable to be mixed with peat and other materials that are not readily rotted.

Of the other kinds named he considered the hog and the human very powerful and capable of effecting much in the compost heap; but that they disappeared sooner than any of the others.

The second class named was *fish and fish*. He spoke of the *Muskegon* fish which are caught in vast numbers on our coasts, fish that are rather larger than the Alewife and fall of oil—rich that a single cart load, mixed with loam, will make ten loads of good manure. The Alewife has formerly been much used for manure, but as the number has diminished nearly all are now eaten. *Offal*, shavings of leather, hair, horns, and bones are good in the compost heap. Bones are also used, after breaking them in fine pieces, by strewing on the surface.

The next class named was *green crops*, or vegetables grown for the purpose of being ploughed in—such as the grass, rye, oats, buckwheat, Indian corn. He considered the ploughing in of green crops, on soils that can be easily ploughed, the cheapest mode of enriching lands that he has ever tried; that corn, on land that will bear it would enrich a field more than any vegetable which we cultivate, though but few trials have yet been made of it.

Of mineral manure he named *potash*, a capital article for some fields, but seemingly worthless on others—saltpetre, a rich article that is found under buildings and very fertilizing. *Soda*, *potash*, and *barilla* also have been found useful. *Potash* may be found too dear for agricultural purposes, but we use the article of which it is made, *ashes*; and when these are leached they are valuable on dry soils.

He next named certain materials that may be converted to manure. *Peat*, *straw*, *rackweed*, *help*. He spoke also of the modern guano, a new article that is found on the coasts of South America and on the islands in the Pacific ocean—it is supposed to be principally the droppings of wild fowls which has accumulated for ages. *Poudrette* also was spoken of, a modern compound which is so much adulterated that its value bears no comparison with its cost. And lastly *Bonanza's* patent manure, or rather a plan of converting vegetable substances quickly to manure. The whole scheme was impugned, in all probability, upon the public. The Commissioner of patents says Bonanza has never obtained a patent for making manure.

The Hon. Mr. Allen, of Pembroke, said this was a subject of vast and extensive importance, he had employed many hours in considering it; and he feared he might say so much as to transgress on the patience of the assembly but for the security which had been provided against speaking too long. He said we must begin first on the margin of the field, the out crops must not be neglected. Before recent improvements and scientific discussion were introduced farmers thought little of looking beyond the barnyard for manure—they had a notion that leaves and substances of that kind were injurious. But we now find that all vegetable matter may be converted to good manure—that we live in a transition state and find all things undergoing a change, the growth of forests and fields all in turn becoming new food of plants.

In minutes he thought we might find inchoate funds and sources of supply, and that we should prepare to catch the rich materials that are floating in the atmosphere—how easy goes it when we are to appear scientific—as the gentleman preceding him had named saltpetre, which is found under buildings, he would say it collects in any place that is sheltered, hence the importance of keeping manures under cover. He thought a vast number of articles might be converted to manure—that his faith was full and probably in advance of his discourse. He felt his inability to do justice to the subject, and feared that he had succeeded no better than the sectarian clergyman, who never could persuade his audience that he himself fully believed his own doctrines.

Hon. Mr. Dodge, of Hamilton, said that among the articles enumerated by the first speaker he did not notice salt. He wished that more trials might be made of this. Seaweed, because of its salt was good. Muscle beds are made use of in Danvers, and they are found very good for the soil. Is it not owing to the salt? He recommended its use in the compost heap.

N. HARDY, Esq., of Waltham, said manures are of great importance in agriculture. The first gentleman has told us of many kinds of manure; they are all good. Every farmer has the materials on his own farm to enrich it. How shall he apply them, how shall he make his compost heap? I answer with his own manure and his own soil mixed with it; and in the room of lime and ash give me hogs' manure. Writers may talk about their chemical or mineral manures, keep hogs, hogs! Keep them in cellars and throw in your hawseho; their bones will sooner decompose a hawseho than all the nostrums of the chemists. Hogs will work better than your Irishmen, though it may cost more to keep them. Hogs will work seven days in a week, while you must be pretty lucky to find an Irishman that will work six.

If a farmer has a dozen head of cattle he may make fifty cords, or 200 loads in a year. He must occasionally haul materials from the first of July to the first of December. Others say the city may buy manure, but I can't afford to haul it to my farm. I can make it for half what it costs in Boston. Some farmers with forty head of cattle make less manure than others with seven head. Keep cattle—make your hogs work—no labor is cheaper than that of the hog!

The President observed the last speaker seemed to go the whole hog on this subject. He should like to hear what others could say. He seems to challenge you all to answer him—of all you who hold to minerals.

A number more gentlemen spoke, but we have no room for the remainder this week. We shall give it in our next agricultural page.

At nine the meeting was adjourned to the next

Wednesday evening, at 7 P. M. Subject for discussion, the application of manures.

LATER FROM EUROPE. The ship Sen, Capt. Edwards, arrived at New York on Monday, with Liverpool papers to the 18th Dec. The Calcutta arrived at Liverpool on the 14th.

The first of February has been fixed on for the meeting of Parliament—Londonism was on the increase. The profits of the Great Western for the year ending 30th June, 1883, had given an opinion that the degrees conferred on Mr. Everett by the University of Oxford, are void.

The actual revenue of the Post-Office department is \$600,000 a year, though the return to Parliament made it much less. The British in China are taking active measures to aid the suppression of the smuggling of opium.

CHANGE OF NAME. Among other matters of vital importance coming before our Legislature, is the change of names. The name of the "Massachusetts Missionary Society," is now to be changed to the "Massachusetts Home Missionary Society," provided the Legislature shall see fit long enough to mature the bill. We cannot learn where the act is to take effect—but presume some distant day will be named, that such an important change shall not come too suddenly upon us.

HARD TO CARRY, HARD TO COUNT. Gov. Morton, of La., urges the Legislature to restrain the banks from issuing any bills of a less denomination than twenty dollars.

Most a farmer send hard money a hundred miles to pay for his newspaper?

RESIGNATION OF MR. SRAUGH. The Providence Journal states that the Hon. William Sprague has resigned his seat in the Senate of the United States. This is understood to be in consequence of the sudden death of his brother, who perished by the hand of an assassin.

THE NEWBURYPORT HERALD says the Albany Cultivator is the cheapest publication of the kind in the country. If he means that it contains the most reading, compared with its price, he will find his error on comparing it with the Ploughman.

ANOTHER TEMPERANCE HOUSE. It will be seen that Mr. Rockwood, of the "Lamb Tavern," advertises that he has banished from his house all intoxicating liquors—Let him be encouraged accordingly.

MR. HENSHAW'S REJECTION. The Senate with only eight opposing votes, rejected the nomination of Mr. Henshaw. The public find it difficult to assign a reason for this rejection.

NEW POST-OFFICE SYSTEM. The Mail says we understand that a new system is about to be established by a number of capitalists under the name of "The American Letter Mail Company."

THE LOWELL ADVERTISER says Mr. Mansur will decline being longer a candidate for Congress in the third district.

IT is stated in one of our exchanges that there is a lady in the city who never eats anything on an empty stomach!

MR. BAKER'S ELECTION. It now appears that Osmyn Baker is elected to Congress in the sixth district by a majority of ten votes. He and Mr. Julius Rockwell, of the 7th district have received official notice of their election. Amos Abbott, of the third, lacked 120 votes.

RAILROAD FROM SPRINGFIELD TO NORTHAMPTON. This corporation was partially organized last week—the books were opened and \$30,000 were subscribed on the spot. It was estimated that the whole expense would not exceed \$300,000—distance about 18 miles.

HANING. Adam Horn, the murderer, was executed last week in Baltimore, in the jail yard, according to law, but the accommodating officer raised the scaffold so high that the multitude could not see the execution.

FISH MARKET. We learn that one of the consequences of opening a direct way to Albany is a great rise in the price of fish sent on from Boston. If we are stuffed with Albany pork we can stuff the west with cod fish.

THE POMEROY ROBBERY. Nearly all the money has been recovered, and the robber, a German, has hanged himself. This is an end of the law for conscience sake.

WE learn that Mr. Cutler's store, corner of Lowell and Minot streets, was broken open on Tuesday night and robbed of two or three dollars change in the drawer.

FIRE—In Blackstone St. on Sunday night, Mr. Jacobs's stock was much damaged by water. It was caused by the boiling over of a pot of varnish.

A little boy in Baltimore has had a watermelon sent out of his window after remaining there for two months. He is now doing well.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

BANGS' LIFE OF ABOLITIONISTS. This is compiled by Rev. Nathan Bangs, D. D., of New York. It gives, briefly, the facts concerning the conversion, doctrines, &c., of this celebrated individual, and will be sought for by readers of religious history; pp. 288, 12mo.

NOEL AND CHAPMAN'S FRENCH GRAMMAR, arranged by Mrs. S. E. Seaman, herself a teacher, with a view to facilitate the progress of pupils in speaking the language, is an excellent book. We know that much time and money are often spent to little purpose in studying the language; and we also know that there is no great difficulty in learning to speak it fluently, if the right method is pursued.

NO. 3 of Gibbon's "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire" with notes by Rev. H. H. Milman is now complete.

These are all from the press of Messrs. Harper & Brothers and may be found at Lewis & Sampson in this city. The same publishers have commenced a pocket edition of select tales in the Parisian style at 25 cents each. The first one is the "Yenasse, a romance of Carolina," by W. G. Simms—Those in search of such reading will doubtless find them very convenient; but we would urge them rather to improve their minds with the excellent books of history, travels and others of a more serious cast of which there is an abundance to select from, at the present day.

Wm. D. Tiekner & Co. have received "The Lives of Pope Alexander VII. and his son Cesar Borgia," by Alexander Gordon. A. M. Some curious historical particulars of Popes, &c., are here told. pp. 232, in pamphlet form.

Jordan & Co., have No. 1, of the "Boys and Girls' Library" edited by Mrs. Colman. An excellent work for children.

There are 260 lawyers, 180 physicians, and 72 clergymen in the city of Boston.

## LATEST FROM WASHINGTON.

The Senate on Tuesday was engaged in discussing a bill to settle land claims in Louisiana and Arkansas, and then went into executive session.

In the House, Mr. McKay, from the committee of ways and means, reported a bill providing for revolutionary and other pensions, amounting to \$517,000.

Also making appropriations for the naval service for the year ending 30th June, 1885, amounting to about \$5,125,000.

Also making appropriations for fortifications. Among them are \$10,427 for Fort Independence and sea wall; \$8000 for Fort Warren, and \$15,000 for Fort Adams.

Mr. Davis, of La., from the committee on public lands, reported a bill to repeal the distribution law.

The resolution in favor of making a grant to remove obstructions in the Mississippi river is objected to and a motion is made for reconsideration.

## STATE LEGISLATION.

In Senate yesterday a debate was held on the subject of granting full corporate powers to the Spot Pond Corporation—One part of the Senate wishes to make the stockholders liable for the debts in their private capacity.

In the House there was considerable debate on a resolve which was offered to impeach the County Attorney and the Sheriff of Essex for misconduct in office. The point debated was whether it was the duty of the House to impeach, or whether it was not the exclusive business of the Governor and Council to inquire into it!

TERMINAL DISASTER. The Steamer Shepherdess, bound from Cincinnati to St. Louis, struck a snag within a few miles of the latter city and came to pieces. From 50 to a hundred lives are supposed to be lost as she had about 200 on board. The weather was cold and many froze to death after reaching the shore.

It was night and they had none but night clothes on.

LARGE WHITE BEANS. Mr. Wm. Stickney, of this city, has handed us a mess of white beans, which he raised on his farm in Westminster, Vt. They are as large as any we have seen; we shall cook them and then give an opinion of their merits. They are pole beans and will yield more of course than the common bush bean.

THE ST. LOUIS PAPERS estimate the loss of lives in the steamer Shepherdess, at forty-one only, and but one a cabin passenger. There were a number of slaves on board.

TEXAS. It seems by late accounts from Texas that the Legislature and people there are nearly unanimous in favor of annexing that country to the United States.

IT is much better in cold weather than when the wind is south. If you want any in your cellar, secure it now. Ice will be icy next summer.

THE GOVERNOR AND COUNCIL have appointed the 29th inst. for the election of a member of Congress in the third district.

WE learn that the editor of the Journal, Capt. Sleeper, is suffering under a severe attack of rheumatism.

MR. HENSHAW'S REJECTION causes much speculation; it is said from some quarters to be on moral grounds.

GERMAN PEASANTS. THE EVENING POST notices the commercial arrangements between the United States and Germany, gives this description of the industry and habits of the German people.

"The peasantry of Germany, who compose the great body of the nation, wear linen and woolen clothing instead of cotton. On the plains of that country vast crops of flax are cultivated, and linen cloths are woven in every family. The spindle is twirled in all the cottages by young girls and aged women, and looms innumerable are crashing every hour of the day in the rural districts. Female servants in families of farmers receive a part of their wages in linen. Every family has its large chest of household linen, some of which was made long years ago, and the emigrants to this country often bring with them those hereditary borders, for such they often are."

A fair specimen of Southern insolence is shown in the Report of Mr. Campbell of South Carolina, on the petition presented by Mr. Giddings for a revision of the laws of the District of Columbia. Mr. C. reported a resolution that the Clerk be directed to return the petition to the gentleman who presented it, and to the resolution was adopted by vote of 116 to 83. Some of the laws of the District are absolutely infamous, and a petition for the revision should be respectfully received and granted. The insolence of this procedure is infinitely worse than the gag-rule. [Lowell Journal.]

A NIGHT WITH FATHER MATHIAS. On the 6th of November Father Mathias gave a sumptuous entertainment to a select party of friends. The waters were of the most recherche description—the old Negro was in fine condition, as were also the *Dons and Velas*; but in respect to aroma and flavor, the *eau de Cologne* was pronounced incomparable.—[Punch.]

SPORTS OF THE WEST. The citizens of Osage, Kendall county, Illinois, have had a meeting preparatory to a steeple chase on the 13th instant; the "contour of the circle," as they express it, being "located through" ten towns—all the inhabitants of which, "the ladies in particular," were invited to partake of the amusement.

INTELLECTUAL PROGRESS. The scientific lectures are thinly attended in New York, this season. The lecture system is evidently on the wane; but the five Georgia niggers at Niblo's, and a nigger ante room at Peale's, draw crowded houses, and elicit unbounded applause.

MR. WISE. It is said that this gentleman does not attend to his Congressional duties very punctual. He is looking for a foreign mission. The Senate will not confirm him as Minister to France—though it is said it will to either Berlin or Mexico.

ROBBERY. On Tuesday evening, the leather store of Mr. Kaulbach, Fulton-street, was entered while the occupants were up stairs, and the counting-room robbed of \$780.

MR. KING, of Mass., offered a resolution for inquiring into the expediency of bringing in a bill for the erection of a breakwater at Sandy Bay, in Massachusetts.

DISTRICT NO. 3. The Lowell Advertiser states that J. W. Mansur, Esq., declines to be a candidate for Congress, as he is about to leave the district.

A great meeting has been held at Montpelier, Vt., to consider the feasibility of the Connecticut Railroad from Lake Champlain to Connecticut River.

We learn by a gentleman from Watfield, that the death of S. Redman, was carried away in that town by the rise of water caused by the late rains.

There are 260 lawyers, 180 physicians, and 72 clergymen in the city of Boston.

## LEGISLATIVE.

SATURDAY, JAN. 12.

IN SENATE. On motion of Mr. Park, it was ordered, that the Committee on Prisons be instructed to inquire whether any regulations or customs are existing at the State Prison in Charleston, S. C., in connection with the religious and moral instruction of the prisoners, and if so, to report thereon.

Mr. Adams, from the Joint Special Committee on the resolutions passed last year recommending an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, reported, as printed and passed were incorrect, owing to a mistake in engraving, in the office of the Secretary of State. The committee reported a new resolve, with the error corrected, and a recommendation that it be sent immediately to the Senate and Representatives in Congress.

After some little discussion, and two or three votes on the subject, the resolve was accepted and the resolve was passed in the following words and sent to the House:

Resolved, That the following amendment to the Constitution of the United States be, and hereby is recommended to the consideration of Congress, to be acted on according to the fifth article. The third clause of the section of the first article shall read in the words following: Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several States which are or may be included within this Union, according to their respective numbers of free persons, excluding Indians not taxed. The actual enumeration shall be made within three years from the date of the adoption of this amendment in the manner provided by the Constitution, and within every subsequent term of ten years, in such manner as the Congress shall by law direct. The number of Representatives shall not exceed for every thirty thousand, but each State shall have at least one Representative.

The error which occurred in engraving was only of two letters, but it altered entirely the intention of the resolve, as it passed last year "including Indians not taxed," &c.

IN THE HOUSE. Mr. Hilditch of Detroit offered the following order, viz.—Whereas, it was a resolution of the House of Representatives, passed on the 24th of June, 1883, that Charles C. Bell of Montgomery, had been tampered with in relation to the vote he was entitled to give as a Representative in the organization of the Government of Louisiana, and whereas, A. D. 1843, by some persons of the Whig party, there being to oppress him, and offering him their wealth; and that some persons of the Democratic party actually tried him to vote by promising him a suit of clothes, a commission in the army, and a salary of \$400; and whereas, said report be true, the said Bell is wholly unfit for a Judicial Office, and he, and connected with the transaction ought to suffer the penalty of the law in such cases made and provided—Ordered, that the Committee on the Judiciary, with authority to send for persons and papers, be instructed to thoroughly investigate all matters touching said report, and report the facts developed by such investigation, that if justice and the public good require the Legislature, it may address His Excellency the Governor and the Hon. Council for the removal of the said Bell from the office of Justice of the Peace, and that proceeding may be instituted against any persons connected with said common report of Bell plot; and said order was accordingly adopted and referred to the committee.

On motion of Mr. Sargent of Cambridge, ordered, that the Committee on the Judiciary consider the expediency of repealing so much of the act passed March 24, 1843, as related that the President should be impeached, which provides for the closing of the polls at sunset.

MONDAY, JAN. 15.

IN SENATE. On motion of Mr. Livermore, it was ordered, that His Excellency the Governor, be requested to furnish the Senate with a list of all Civil Officers, Commissioners, or Agents appointed by the Executive or Legislative authority during the past year.

The Governor transmitted the documents relating to the State Map, and they were referred to the Committee on Education.

IN THE HOUSE. Petitions, &c. were presented and referred, viz:

By Mr. Gibbons of Boston, petition of Thomas H. Wadsworth, Director of the Town of North Branch Railroad Company, for leave to extend their road.

By Mr. Putnam of Salem, petition of John P. Andrews of Salem, for the promotion of universal peace.

By Mr. Walley of Roxbury, a memorial of the Western Railroad Corporation, praying the Legislature to establish the rate of toll it shall pay for running over the Worcester Road.

Mr. Wales of Boston, offered an order that a Committee of one from each County be appointed to ascertain what alterations, if any, can be made in the laws of the State, in relation to the Law, or what system, if any, can be devised, which shall be better adapted to the wants of the citizens of this Commonwealth, with leave to report by bill or otherwise.

TUESDAY, JAN. 16.

IN SENATE. The resolves recommending an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, as passed by the House, were passed to be enacted. [These resolves are the same as those passed last week by our Legislature, but which by an error of the transcribing clerk were engrossed in such a manner as to read, "including Indians not taxed," instead of "excluding Indians not taxed," &c.]

The Order from the House, in relation to the Order of Notice, was passed in concurrence.

In the House. The Speaker announced the following gentlemen as the Special Committee in relation to the Insolvent Laws:

Wales of Boston, Hilditch of Charleston, Wadsworth of Lynn, and Phillips of Philadelphia, Ring of Worthington, Cushman of Barnstable, Beebe of Wilbraham, East of Hinsdale, Day of Wrentham, Drake of Colton, Holmes of Halifax, Baker of Dennis, and Jones of Nantucket.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 17.

IN SENATE. Petitions presented and referred:—Of William Woodbury and 48 others, of the town of Woburn, for a more just and efficient mode of selecting the United States Senator, and of Jonathan Ring, to be set off from the town of Salisbury and annexed to Amesbury, by Mr. Clarke of Essex.

Mr. Child of Worcester, from the Committee on Prisons, reported a bill in relation to the petition of the Worcester Branch Railroad Corporation.

Ordered—That the Committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of repealing the act of the last session, entitled "An act in addition to an Act concerning elections."

House of Representatives. The House came to order at 11, and the journal of yesterday was read.

Prayer was made by Rev. J. F. Clarke, Chaplain of the Senate.

The House was called on for petitions, &c. By Mr. Higelow of Boston; of E. B. Bigelow and others, for income tax for manufacturing purposes. Also, of George B. Wallace, to be compensated for property stolen from him out of the penalty of the criminal's recognition collected and paid out into the treasury.

By Mr. Hopkins of Northampton, for extension of time and amendment of charter.

By Mr. Allen of Walpole; of sundry citizens of Walpole, concerning the militia.

By Mr. Wood of Northfield; or J. C. Brigham and 1829 others, for an act of incorporation for a railroad from Fitchburg to Brattleboro, Vt., by way of Northfield or Greenfield, or both, as the stockholders shall decide.

By Mr. Stevenson of Boston; of Walter J. Wadsworth, for the removal of the Worcester Road, and 2000 others, concerning the burning of the Ursuline convent at Charleston, be taken from the files of last year, and referred to a special committee.

By Mr. Cushman of Barnstable; remonstrance of Myrtle McGee and 13 others, of Coleraine, against the right of Arad Towne to a seat in the House.

Mr. Speaker announced Messrs. Dwight of Boston, Edgell of Framingham, and Curtis of Weymouth, as joined on the part of the House to the special committee on a petition concerning the transportation of products over the Western railroad.

On motion of Mr. Boutwell of Groton, it was ordered—That the committee on the judiciary

## LEGISLATIVE.

SATURDAY, JAN. 12.

IN SENATE. On motion of Mr. Park, it was ordered, that the Committee on Prisons be instructed to inquire whether any regulations or customs are existing at the State Prison in Charleston, S. C., in connection with the religious and moral instruction of the prisoners, and if so, to report thereon.

Mr. Adams, from the Joint Special Committee on the resolutions passed last year recommending an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, reported, as printed and passed were incorrect, owing to a mistake in engraving, in the office of the Secretary of State. The committee reported a new resolve, with the error corrected, and a recommendation that it be sent immediately to the Senate and Representatives in Congress.

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